

Revelation

THE RETURN OF CHRIST

A survey through the Bible 8 Week Study



▶ Purpose:

- ▶ An 8-week survey through the eight major sections of Scripture, revealing God's salvific plan in Christ as the central theme. Luke 24:26-27 Jesus explains how He can be revealed in the OT.

▶ Goals:

- ▶ Reveal God's plan through each section of Scripture
- ▶ Encourage a habit of Bible reading, as the continuity and chronology come into focus
- ▶ Allow personal understanding of the Word result in sharing His gospel

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- ▶ Timeline of writing: 95AD
- ▶ Timeline of events: 1st– 2nd coming of Christ, eternity

Revelation	
Chapter(s)	Time period covered
1	What you have seen
2-3	What is now
4-22	What will take place later

Four major views

- ▶ Allegorical, non-literal
 - ▶ Symbolic non-literal presentation of God's ultimate victory
- ▶ Preterist
 - ▶ Symbolic presentation of what has already occurred
- ▶ Historical
 - ▶ An unfolding of the history between Christ's two comings. No literal millennial reign
- ▶ Futuristic
 - ▶ Ch 4-22 detail future events, mainly the 7 year period prior to Christ's return (4-18), the second coming (19), millennial reign (20), and eternal state (21-22).

Theological significance:

- ▶ Revelation is the climax of human history.
- ▶ All prophecies in both testaments are concluded in their entirety within its pages.
- ▶ The second coming of Christ and the events immediately preceding it are explained in graphic detail.
- ▶ The details surrounding the ultimate destination for mankind, as well as the ultimate victory in Christ are revealed.

God's plan revealed in Revelation:

- ▶ God's salvific plan in Christ is ultimately achieved and detailed in Revelation.
- ▶ The previous (Ch 1), current (Ch 2-3), and future (Ch 4-22) state of mankind between Christ's two comings are revealed.
- ▶ God displays both His righteous judgment and gracious mercy.
- ▶ The destination for those who follow and reject Christ are ultimately revealed.

How to Interpret:

- ▶ Utilize basic interpretive principles (OICA)
 - ▶ Observation, Interpretation, Correlation, Application
- ▶ Use this book to sharpen your view of God, man, sin, salvation, etc.
- ▶ Recognize the genre, these letters were meant to be read in their entirety
 - ▶ Recognize the genre of apocalyptic literature:
 - ▶ It was meant to be read in its entirety
 - ▶ Follow the chronology in
Symbolism is highly evident
 - ▶ Look for direct interpretations for greatest accuracy
 - ▶ What is figurative, what is literal
 - ▶ Recognize the image and non-image in order to understand the correct interpretation

How to Interpret:

- ▶ Utilize parallel passages and yet to be fulfilled prophecies (Old Testament and Olivet Discourse)
- ▶ Practical application:
 - ▶ Revelation assures us Jesus is returning.
 - ▶ Focus on the WHY, not the WHEN
 - ▶ Focus on HOW we are to live in light of His return:
 - ▶ Matt 22:36-40
 - ▶ Matt 28:19-20
 - ▶ the book, without getting hung up on EXACT dates

Analyze and apply the Book of Revelation:

- ▶ In what way does Jesus reveal the future to John in the Revelation?
- ▶ How do the letters to the seven churches speak to us today?
- ▶ What is the significance of the seven seals, trumpets, and bowls?
- ▶ Why does Revelation depict Christ as a Lamb?
- ▶ What actually occurs at Armageddon when Jesus returns?
- ▶ What does the promise of the New Jerusalem (eternal city) mean to you personally?

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